Baſſ. Sweet *Portia*,
If you did know to whome I gaue the Ring,
If you did know for whom I gaue the Ring,
And would conceiue for what I gaue the Ring,
And how vnwillingly I left the Ring,
When nought would be accepted but the Ring,
You would abate the ſtrength of your diſpleaſure.
Por. If you had knowne the vertue of the Ring,
Of halfe her worthineſſe that gaue the Ring,
Or your owne honor to containe the Ring,
You would not then haue parted with the Ring.
What man is there ſo much vnreaſonable,
If you had pleaſd to haue defended it
With any termes of zeale, wanted the modeſty
To vrge the thing held as a ceremony?
Nerriſſa teaches me what to beleeue,
Ile die for't, but ſome woman had the Ring.
Baſſ. No by my honor Madam, by my ſoule
No woman had it, but a ciuill Doctor,
Which did refuſe three thouſand Ducates of me,
And begd the Ring, the which I did deny him,
And ſuffer'd him to go away diſpleaſd,
Euen he that did vphold the very life
Of my deere friend. What ſhould I ſay ſweet Lady?
I was enforc'd to ſend it after him:
I was beſet with ſhame and courteſie,
My honour would not let ingratitude
So much beſmeare it. Pardon me good Lady,
For by theſe bleſſed Candles of the night,
Had you bene there, I thinke you would haue begd
The Ring of me, to giue the worthy Doctor.
Por. Let not that Doctor ere come neere my houſe,
Since he hath got the iewell that I loued,
And that which you did ſweare to keepe for me,
I will become as liberall as you,
Ile not deny him any thing I haue,

No, not my bodie, nor my husbands bed:
Know him I ſhall, I am well ſure of it.
Lye not a night from home: watch me like Argos,
If you do not, if I be left alone,
Now by mine honor, which is yet mine owne,
Ile haue that Doctor for my bed-fellow.
Ner. And I his Clarke: therefore be well aduiſd
How you do leaue me to mine owne protection.
Gra. Well do you ſo: let not me take him then,
For if I do, Ile marre the yong Clarkes pen.
An. I am th'vnhappy ſubiect of theſe quarrels.
Por. Sir, greeue not you, you are welcome notwithſtanding.
Baſſ. Portia, forgiue me this enforced wrong,
And in the hearing of theſe many friends
I ſweare to thee, euen by thine owne faire eyes,
Wherein I ſee my ſelfe.
Por. Marke you but that.
In both my eyes he doubly ſees himſelfe:
In each eye one, ſweare by your double ſelfe,
And there's an oath of credite.
Baſſ. Nay, but heare me,
Pardon this fault, and by my ſoule I ſweare,
I neuer more will breake an oath with thee.
An. I once did lend my body for his wealth,
Which but for him that had your husband Ring,
Had quite miſcarried. *I* dare be bound againe,
My ſoule vpon the forfet, that your Lord
Will neuer more breake faith aduiſedly.
Por. Then you ſhall be his ſurety; giue him this,
And bid him keepe it better then the other.
An. Heere Lord *Baſſanio*, ſweare to keepe this Ring.
Baſſ. By heauen it is the ſame I gaue the Doctor.
Por. I had it of him; pardon me *Baſſanio*,
For by this ring the Doctor lay with me.
Ner. And pardon me my gentle *Gratiano*,
For that ſame ſcrubbed boy the Doctors Clarke,